

National Broadcasting
Company, Inc.

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Washington Counsel



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May 1, 1998

Magalie Roman Salas
Secretary
Federal Communication Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Re: MM Docket No. 87-268

Dear Ms. Salas:

National Broadcasting Company, Inc. (NBC), on behalf of itself and its wholly-owned licensee subsidiaries, submits the following report, pursuant to the requirements of the Fifth Report and Order in the above-referenced proceeding, regarding the status of its implementation of DTV broadcast facilities in Los Angeles, CA, Washington, D.C., Philadelphia, PA, Dallas-Fort Worth, TX, Chicago, IL, and New York, NY.

KNBC, LOS ANGELES, CA

An application for construction permit is on file with the FCC and all the necessary equipment has been ordered. The DTV antenna will be placed on the station's current tower, which will require some strengthening work. The station is currently on target to begin broadcasting from its DTV facility by November 1, 1998.

WCAU, PHILADELPHIA, PA

An application for construction permit is on file with the FCC and all the necessary equipment has been ordered. The DTV antenna will be placed on the station's current tower, which will require some strengthening work. The station is currently on target to begin broadcasting from its DTV facility by November 1, 1998.

WRC-TV, WASHINGTON, D.C.

An application for construction permit is on file with the FCC and all the necessary equipment has been ordered. The station is currently on target to begin broadcasting from its DTV facility by November 1, 1998.

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KXAS-TV, FORT-WORTH, TX

The station's initial application for construction permit was granted which specified a side-mounted antenna. An application to modify that construction permit to specify a top-mounted antenna is on file with the FCC. All the necessary DTV equipment has arrived. The station is currently on target to begin broadcasting from its DTV facility by November 1, 1998.

WMAQ-TV, CHICAGO, IL

NBC committed to construct the DTV facilities for WMAQ-TV by November 1, 1998 subject to resolving the complicated tower location issue which had been identified to the Commission. See April 2, 1997 letter to Commissioners from John H. Rohrbeck, President, NBC Television Stations. As explained in detail in NBC's April 27, 1998 letter to the FCC, requesting an extension of time in which to file its construction permit application for WMAQ-TV, despite its diligent efforts to secure a site for its DTV antenna, NBC has been unable to reach an agreement with its current landlord for space for its DTV facilities. We are hopeful that this situation will be resolved shortly. In addition, WMAQ-TV continues its efforts as part of the 14 member Chicago Digital Broadcasting Committee to locate a site which could accommodate the DTV facilities for all the Chicago television stations. WMAQ-TV will not be able to complete construction of its DTV facilities by November 1, 1998. However, we will continue to work aggressively to be on the air as soon as possible after that date.

WNBC, NEW YORK, NY

NBC committed to construct the DTV facilities for WNBC by November 1, 1998 subject to resolving the complicated tower location issue which had been identified to the Commission. See April 2, 1997 letter to Commissioners from John H. Rohrbeck, President, NBC Television Stations. As explained in detail in NBC's April 27, 1998 letter to the FCC, requesting an extension of time in which to file its construction permit application for WNBC, despite its diligent efforts to secure a site for its DTV antenna, NBC has been unable to reach an agreement with its current landlord for space for its DTV facilities or to secure an acceptable alternative site. NBC, along with the Television Broadcasters All Industry Committee, is committed to continuing its aggressive efforts to resolve this tower situation as quickly as possible. We are prepared to sign a commercially reasonable lease and commence construction immediately thereafter. WNBC will not be able to complete construction of its DTV facilities by November 1,

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas
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1998. However, we will continue to work aggressively to be on the air as soon as possible after that date.

Kindly direct questions concerning this progress report to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,


Diane Zipursky

cc: Chairman William E. Kennard
Commissioner Susan Ness
Commissioner Harold Furchtgott-Roth
Commissioner Michael Powell
Commissioner Gloria Tristani
Roy Stewart
Keith Larson
Karen Kornbluh
John Morgan